

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated September 22, 2006 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 6-13 are currently pending. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 6 and 13 are objected to allegedly because they are not distinctively claimed. Applicants respectfully traverse the objection for the following reasons.

The Examiner asserts *inter alia* that the added features in claims 6 and 13 in the previous amendment are not disclosed in the original disclosure because the specification discloses that the light shielding film is coated or printed onto the lower polarizer. Applicants respectfully submit that these features are disclosed in Figs. 5 and 7 of the present application. What is coated or printed is not the light shielding film but the material that absorbs light. As a result, the material that absorbs the light is coated or printed on the lower polarizer 12 so that the light shielding film 15 can be formed at the same layer level as the lower polarizer 12 or the light shielding film 15 can be formed in the lower polarizer 12. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to claims 6 and 13 be withdrawn.

In addition, claims 6-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's Related Art (ARA) in view of Dingwall et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,307,188). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 6 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 6 recites a combination of elements including, for example, "...wherein the light shielding film is formed at the same layer level as the lower polarizer and absorbs light." Nowhere does Dingwall et al. teach or suggest these features of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 6 and claims 7-12, which depend therefrom, are allowable over the cited references.

Claim 13 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 13 recites a combination of elements including, for example, "...a light shielding material formed in the lower polarizer and along a peripheral portion of the lower polarizer to minimize constructive interference at a peripheral portion of the LCD device..." Nowhere does Dingwall et al. teach or suggest these

features of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 13 is allowable over the cited references.

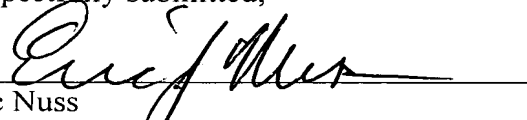
Applicants believe the application is in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: January 5, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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